Claims

1) (original) A device for connecting an, at least in part, electrically conductive sheath (21) of an alternating current winding (4), which is placed into the grooves (2) of a long-stator (1), to a ground conductor (17), comprising a sleeve (11) partly enclosing the winding (4) in the groove area and made of stainless steel, said sleeve being provided at at least one longitudinal end with a connecting element (16) also made of stainless steel for said ground conductor (17), characterized in that the ground conductor (17) is exclusively made of a non-corrosive metal.

2) (original) A device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the ground conductor (17) is made of stainless steel.

3) (currently amended) A device according to Claim 1 ~~or Claim 2~~, characterized in that the connecting element (16) is a spring channel destined for resilient accommodation of said ground conductor (17).

4) (original) A device according to Claim 3, characterized in that the connecting element (16) is connected in a one-part configuration by means of a connection lug (15) to said sleeve (11).

5) (currently amended) A device according to ~~any of the preceding Claims 1 to 4~~ Claim 1, characterized in that the sleeve (11) is provided with at least one inwardly protruding nominal contact point (18).

6) (original) A device according to Claim 5, characterized in that the nominal contact point (18) is comprised of a bead.

7) (currently amended) A device according to Claim 5 [[to 6]], characterized in that the sleeve (11) is provided at its longitudinal ends with two nominal contact

points (18) each, said contact points (18) being arranged at the outer edges.

8) (currently amended) A device according to Claim 6 [[or 7]], characterized in that the bead has such a radial height that it presses itself into the sheath (21) of the winding (4) in the mounted condition thereof.

9) (currently amened) A device according to ~~any of the preceding Claims 3 to 8~~ Claim 3, characterized in that the connecting element (16), the connection lug (15) and the nominal contact point (18) are of a large-area configuration to reduce the transition resistances from the sheath (21) of the winding (4) to the sleeve (11) and from the sleeve (11) to the ground conductor (17).

10) (currently amended) A device according to ~~any of the preceding Claims 1 to 9~~ Claim 1, characterized in that ends of the ground conductor (17) at separation points thereof are connected to each other through a connecting piece (25) provided with a loop (24).

11) (original) A device according to Claim 10, characterized in that clamping connectors (26) are provided to connect the ground conductor ends with the connecting piece (25).

12) (original) A device according to Claim 11, characterized in that the clamping connectors (26) are made of stainless steel.

13) (currently amended) A device according to ~~Claims 11 or 12~~ Claim 11, characterized in that the clamping connectors (26) are provided with anti-twisting elements (28) or designed as such elements.

14) (currently amended) A device according to ~~any of the preceding Claims 10 to 13~~ Claim 10, characterized in that the ground conductor ends are connected to security means (23) for prevention of splicing-up.

15) (currently amended) A magnetic levitation railway with a long-stator (1) as part of a long-stator linear motor, wherein the long-stator (1) has grooves (2) and an alternating current winding (4) inserted into said grooves which winding (4) has an, at least in part, electrically conductive sheath (21), characterized in that it is equipped with a device in accordance with ~~one or more of the preceding Claims 1 to 14~~ Claim 1, for grounding of the sheath (21).